Contact: Trisha Charbonneau-Ivey Bay Human Services Collaborative Council Phone 989-895-2381 Fax 989-497-1561 tivey@babha.org

916 Washington Ave., Suite 223 Bay City, MI 48708

Press Release

Bay HSCC Presents 2012 Outstanding Collaboration Award



Award Recipient announced at State of Human Services Event Today

Bay City, MI, January 16, 2013: The Bay Human Services Collaborative Council, the State endorsed Community Collaborative Body for Bay County announced the winner of their 2012 Outstanding Collaboration Award at the State of Human Services Breakfast at the Doubletree Hotel and Conference Center today. This group of health and human services leaders accepts nominations for examples of outstanding, creative and innovative collaborative projects among health and human services organizations each year. HSCC Chairperson Roger Pickering, Director of Special Projects at Lutheran Child and Family Services presented the award to Ron Lemmon, Chairperson of the Bay County Elder Abuse Task Force, and General Services Program Manager at Bay County Department of Human Services. Roger highlighted the work of the 2012 Recipient The Bay County Elder Abuse Task Force: "The Bay County Senior Task Force, established an Elder Abuse Task Force in order to address the growing problem of abuse and exploitation of older adults in Bay County. Through their efforts in partnership with a vast array of governmental, judicial, law enforcement, adult protective services and non profit health and human services providers they were able to secure a three year \$385,000 federal grant from the Department of Justice under the Enhanced Training and Services to End Violence Against and Abuse of Women Later in Life. Not only has this grant allowed for successful expansion of community partnerships, it has established a team that will work to prevent and effectively respond to elder abuse in our community."

Mr. Lemmon accepted the award on behalf of the partnership, quoting Pearl S. Buck: "Our society must make it right and possible for old people not to fear the young or be deserted by them, for the test of a civilization is the way that it cares for its helpless members." Mr. Lemmon expressed gratitude to the collaborative partners: Department of Human Services, The Bay County Executive, Division on Aging, Health Departmetn, Prosecuting Attorney's Office, Probate Court, Bay Area Women's Center, Local Law Enforcement, Region VII Area Agency on Aging, PNC Bank, Bay Arenac Behavioral Health, Bay Medical Care Facility and Huron Woods Nursing Center for their dedication to protecting Seniors in Bay County. Mr. Lemmon lauded the work of the partners and emphasized that "the award of the Federal Justice Department grant further enhances the efforts in protecting one of Bay County's most precious resources, our senior population."